

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 03964 121303 Z

44

ACTION EA-02

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SNM-02 /005 W
----- 028601

P R 121046 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO BNDD HQS WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1358
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 3964

EO 11652: GDS-1979
TAGS: SNAR (TASK FORCE)
SUBJECT: TASK FORCE REPORTS, WEEK ENDING MARCH 7, 1973

HQS PASS BELK/ IA, DURKIN/ ENCC FROM DICK

WHITE HOUSE PASS L. GLADDEN FROM DICK/ BNDD

1. TASK FORCE 23 (SNO)

A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS REPORTS.

B) OFFICE SPACE: ADEQUATE OFFICE SPACE PRESENTLY
EXISTS AT EACH SNO GARRISON.

C) EQUIPMENT: DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD A
SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE FROM GENERAL ELECTRIC TRAVELED
TO EACH SNO GARRISON AND REPAIRED THE MALFUNCTIONING
RADIO EQUIPMENT. THE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE ALSO SPENT MANY
HOURS EDUCATING SNO PERSONNEL ON PROPER MAINTENANCE AND
UTILIZATION OF THEIR RADIO EQUIPMENT.

D) OPERATIONS: LT. SOMYOT FAKTHONGPAN, THE OFFICER
IN CHARGE OF SNO HEADQUARTERS AT CHIANG MAI, ARMED WITH
INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION FROM A CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT,
LED A SNO RAIDING PARTY TO THE SRI TOKYO HOTEL, ROOM A-6,
CHIANG MAI, THAILAND. ON MARCH 2, 1973 AT 3:00 P. M., A
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 03964 121303 Z

SUBSEQUENT SEARCH OF THE ROOM REVEALED FOUR GRAMS OF NUMBER 4 HEROIN, SECRETED IN TWO PLASTIC TUBES, TWENTY CIGARETTES, DUNHILL BRAND, WHICH CONTAINED SMALL AMOUNTS OF NUMBER 4 HEROIN AND 2 GRAMS OF PREPARED OPIUM SECRETED IN ONE PLASTIC TUBE. AFTER THE DISCOVERY SNO PERSONNEL ARRESTED THREE SUBJECTS IDENTIFIED AS ARLONG SAE MAE, KOISI SAE MOK AND WANGING SAE NAH, ALL THREE SUBJECTS REPORTED TO BE KMT'S. THE SUBJECTS WERE CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF HEROIN AND OPIUM AND WERE TAKEN TO THE CHIANG MAI PROVINCIAL POLICE STATION ALONG WITH THE EXHIBITS FOR THEIR CRIMINAL DISPOSITION. LT. SOMYOT FAKTHONGPAN, ADVISED THE CMDO THAT SNO PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN SURVEILLING THE ABOVE SUBJECTS FOR ONE MONTH AND WERE FINALLY ABLE TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO ARREST THEM.

SNO PERSONNEL AT THE MAE SAI AREA OFFICE ARE C WINUING THEIR POST INVESTIGATION OF WB-7 3-0005 IN AN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SMUGGLING SYNDICATE AND TARGET THEM FOR FUTURE ENFORCEMENT / OPERATIONS.

SNO CONTINUES TO MAKE THE ROUTING ROADCHECKS TOTALING AROUND 150 PER WEEK.

2. TASK FORCE 27 (GSI)

A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.

B) EQUIPMENT: NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.

C) OFFICE SPACE: NO CHANGE AT THIYFELME.

D) OPERATIONS:

(A) ON MARCH 2, 1973, GSI PERSONNEL FROM HEADQUARTERS AND THE GARRISONS CONCLUDED BNDD'S NTI TWO WEEK TRAINING COURSE WITH A CLOSING CEREMONY ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE VIENTIANE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY, HIGH RANKING OFFICERS OF THE LAO GOVERNMENT, AND U. S. NARCOTIC ADVISORS. THE PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY AWARDED NTI CERTIFICATES TO EACH STUDENT AFTER WHICH HE GAVE A SPEECH, FOLLOWED BY A CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 03964 121303 Z

VIN D' HONNEUR. THE NTI SCHOOL WAS AN UNPRECEDENTED

SUCCESS AND CREATED UNUSUAL INTEREST IN THE LAO COMMUNITY. THE PROGRESS OF THE TRAINING SCHOOL WAS FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY USIS AND LAO JOURNALISTS. THE INTERESTS AND PRESENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AT THE CEREMONY STRONGLY INDICATES THAT HE AND THE LAO GOVERNMENT SUPPORT THE GSI NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS, AND THE NARCOTIC CONTROL PROGRAM FOR LAOS.

ON MARCH 7, 1973. AT 1630 HOURS, GSI OFFICERS SEARCHED MILITARY AIRCRAFT NO. 24178 FROM LUANG PRABANG WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. GSI OFFICERS ARE CONTINUING SURVEILLANCE OF MAJOR TRAFFICKERS. A GENERAL MEETING OF ALL GSI PERSONNEL WAS HELD AT VIENTIANE DURING THIS PERIOD TO DISCUSS OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS, EQUIPMENT AND COOPERATION. ON MARCH 7, 1973, A MEETING WAS HELD BY THE CHIEF OF GSI, LNP, CUSTOMS, BNDD, USAID/ PSD TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS BROUGHT OUT AT THE LAO GENERAL MEETING. BNDD/ GSI SOURCES OF INFORMATION IDENTIFIED AND AMERICAN SUSPECT NAMED LARRY KLIENHANS WHO SINCE FEBRUARY 26, 1973, UPON ARRIVAL AT VIENTIANE, WAS ATTEMPTING TO BUY HEROIN FROM LOCAL TRAFFICKERS AND PAY FOR SAME IN COUNTERFEIT U. S. DOLLARS. THE SUSPECT, DURING A BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME, ELUDED SURVEILLANCE, AFTER WHICH THE OFFICERS DETERMINED THAT THE SUSPECT WAS ENROUTE TO BANGKOK TO THE SOUTH- EAST HOTEL. THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED TO BNDD BANGKOK, WHO FURNISHED SAME TO THEIR THAI COLLEAGUES. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 8, 1973, THE THAI NARCOTIC OFFICERS ARRESTED THE SUSPECT AT THE HOTEL WITH APPROXIMATELY 250 GRAMS OF MORPHINE BASE STRAPPED TO HIS BODY. WA-73-0004.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR FRED T. DICK ATTENDED THE NTI CLOSING CEREMONY AT VIENTIANE, LAOS ON MARCH 2, 1973. HE DEPARTED FOR BANGKOK ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(B) LUANG PRABANG: GSI SOURCES HAVE DEVELOPED INFORMATION CONCERNING CAMBODIAN OPIUM BUYERS IN THAT AREA, NEGOTIATING TO PURCHASE 1500 PONGS OF OPIUM (576.9 KILOS). GSI SOURCES STATE THAT THE SUSPECTS HAVE ALREADY COLLECTED 1200 PONGS AND WILL SHIP SAME VIA AIR TO CAMBODIA. GSI/ LP CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY SAME AND LOCATE STORAGE AREA. GSI/ PAKSE ALERTED OF THE
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PAGE 04 BANGKO 03964 121303 Z

ABOVE.

(C) SAYABOURY: GSI SOURCES REVEAL THAT 10 OPIUM MERCHANTS WILL ARRIVE SAYABOURY TO PURCHASE 400 PONGS (153.8 KILOS) OPIUM. GSI OFFICERS ARE ON LOOK- OUT

FOR THE ABOVE SUSPECTS.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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